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Maloney wins mayor's seat



WAINFLEET PHOTO/OMI
AGENCY NAGARA

John Maloney claimed victory Monday night as Port Colborne's new mayor. He is pictured while holding grandson Nolan Maloney.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **PUBLIC SAFETY:** Police say contract is valid; government investigating company

Furnace sale to man with dementia upsets friends

DAN DAKIN

QMI Agency Niagara

A Welland couple who say their family friends were burned by a questionable furnace deal want to warn others not to let it happen to them.

Henry and Lorraine Klein, who have been taking care of an elderly St. Catharines man suffering from dementia and his 50-year-old son with a serious brain injury, said the two men agreed to replace their six-year-old furnace with a new one that ended up costing more than \$6,000.

Henry Klein said he wants others to know about Toronto-based Ontario Energy Group, which sold the furnace and had it installed. "I have to get something done, because other people are going to get the same thing," he said.

The names of the victims are being kept anonymous at the request of other family members, who fear making their relatives' names public will make them a target in the future.

The Kleins said the 50-year-old brain-injured man once spent more than \$30,000 over 10 years on Publisher's Clearing House, while his 84-year-old dad put his house up for sale two years ago and then thought potential buyers and real estate agents touring the home were just visitors.

"All of the real estate agents in St. Catharines now know not to take his calls," Henry Klein said.

The situation with the furnace started Aug. 27, Lorraine Klein said. That's when a salesman showed up at the elderly man's St. Catharines home and said he was there to inspect his furnace.

She said the elderly man told her the salesman identified himself as someone who works for the government. After the salesman looked at the existing six-year-old furnace, the elderly man signed a contract to immediately have it replaced with a new one from the Ontario Energy Group.

The contract includes payments of \$70 a month for the next 15 years, and allowed



Henry and Lorraine Klein look over some of the paperwork from the sale of a furnace to their family friends by Ontario Energy Group. The Kleins want to warn seniors about inviting salesmen into their homes and signing lengthy contracts.

the Ontario Energy Group to put a lien on the house in case the bill wasn't paid.

Within two days, the old furnace had been removed and the new one installed. A few days later, Lorraine Klein found out what happened when her friend casually mentioned it.

"He said it was from the government and they got it for free," she said. "I said 'nothing is for free.' Right

away, I went downstairs and sure enough, there was a new furnace. I was fuming mad."

Knowing Ontario has a 10-day cooling off period for contracts, Klein said she immediately tried contacting the company but couldn't get anyone to return her calls. She has phone records showing multiple calls to Ontario Energy Group's Toronto phone number before the 10-day period expired.

The Kleins contacted Niagara Regional Police, but she was told because the salesman was invited into the house and a contract was signed, no laws were broken.

They also contacted a lawyer to ask if they could fight the contract, but were told it would cost more to fight it than to simply pay it out.

QMI Agency Niagara made repeated calls to Ontario Energy Group requesting

comment for this story. A receptionist said the only person authorized to speak was vice-president Mark Treger. Messages left for him were not returned.

Rather than fight, the Kleins and a relative of the family who lives in Atlantic Canada decided to buy out the contract at a cost of \$6,215.

Had the elderly man continued to pay \$70 per month,

the furnace would have ended up costing \$12,600.

A spokesman for the Ontario Ministry of Consumer Affairs, which handles complaints like the Kleins', said the ministry is aware of Ontario Energy Group.

"This business is currently under investigation," Sandra Bento said.

She said the Consumer Protection Act allows contracts signed in a consumer's home to be cancelled "for any reason" within 10 days. Bento said even though that period has come and gone, the ministry can still investigate any transaction that has taken place within the past two years.

In addition, she said, if a consumer feels "the salesperson has misled them, the consumer has the right to cancel the agreement within one year and have any monies paid returned."

"It is considered an unfair practice for a person to make a false, misleading or deceptive representation under the Consumer Protection Act," Bento said.

Whatever happens with her friends, Lorraine Klein hopes this situation can be a lesson for others.

"I just want people to know not to let these people in," she said. "Because it's Ontario Energy Group, they think they're from the government and they know what they're talking about."

"We don't care about getting the money back. That's not the point. The point is to let people know that these people aren't what they say they are," she said.

Henry Klein said he knows moving the elderly man out of his home might seem like the best choice for his own protection, but that would mean separating the father and son.

"You would be breaking up a pair that are two halves thinking for each other. To try to find an environment for the both of them — that concerns me, because they'll be split apart."

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■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

I've been thinking about fear and faith

REV. DR. STEVEN DAVIS
Central United Church, Port Colborne

I had planned to take my newspaper space this week to write something fairly innocuous (and, in retrospect, quite unimportant) about Halloween and how we as Christians should understand it.

(For what it's worth, I'm on the side that thinks there are Christians who take Halloween far too seriously, and that there's nothing wrong with kids dressing up in costumes and playing a bit of trick or treat.)

But, sitting here and writing this, it didn't seem appropriate to write about that.

A little over 24 hours ago, at the time I'm writing this, we faced the scene of a shooting in Ottawa, a soldier being murdered and the Parliament Buildings — the symbol of our democracy — being locked down. Just days before that, another soldier was killed in another attack in Quebec. I spent a good deal of time watching news reports of what was happening, numbed a bit but in all honesty not really surprised that this sort of thing happened in Canada.

Some people are expressing shock, but I'm not shocked. The world has become a

pretty small place. Problems happening in other parts of the world hit home here, and we choose (rightly or wrongly — and that's a whole other debate) to become involved in what's happening in other parts of the world. That some of the world's problems would be imported to Canada is hardly surprising.

Right now, there's a lot of speculation about the violence that's taken place. Is it part of a wider terrorist plot? Is there more to come? Or were these "lone wolf" incidents — with isolated and probably disturbed individuals throwing our country and its institutions into chaos? It will probably take a while to find that out for sure. But the reaction is disturbing to me. On a radio call-in show a little while ago, I heard someone say that "everything's changed — and it's changed forever." I heard another caller say "nothing will ever be the same again." That concerns me. It concerns me as a Christian. It concerns me as a pastor, because I'm concerned that what's going to change is not going to be for the better.

The word "terrorist" comes from the root word "terror." A terrorist is someone who uses terror as a weapon. For a terrorist, as I see it, the point is not to kill a soldier or anyone else. The point is to instill terror into those

who are left behind. It's to have us all looking over our shoulders, suspicious of everyone we see that we don't know; everyone we see who looks or acts a little different. As another caller to that talk show said, "we'll never be able to trust anyone ever again." And there's the victory that "terrorism" wins. It reduces our society; it takes away some of the fundamental things that make us who we are. It makes us act in fear, and when we act out of fear we often do irrational things.

When we decide that our safety (which can never be totally guaranteed) is all that matters, then we become prepared to surrender much of what we are for the illusion that such surrender is making us safer. I've always been taken with the words of the great American patriot Benjamin Franklin, who wrote that "he who gives up liberty to gain temporary security is deserving of neither liberty nor security." No matter what, it's essential that we hold on to what and who we are as Canadians, and that we continue to uphold the ideals and values that we cherish. Otherwise we give a victory to those whose primary goal isn't simply to kill a few people, but is rather to terrify a lot of people.

From a Christian perspective, I think it's important for us to remember that we are

called to act in faith, and not to act out of fear. Christian faith teaches us many things. Above all, it teaches us love. "God is love," the Bible tells us. And we're also told that "perfect love casts out fear." If Christians succumb to the wave of fear and anxiety that I heard on that radio call-in show, then I despair. "Love your neighbour" must mean just that. But, if we act out of fear, then we'll succumb as easily as anyone to the desire to target certain people, to distrust others, to seek revenge, to sacrifice freedom (our own and the freedom of others) for the illusion of safety.

We need to continue to be who we are. A free and democratic society. A society that, while not perfect, has done in my opinion a pretty good job of loving our neighbours in so many different ways. Fear can cause us to let go of those things; to sacrifice all that we hold dear. But perfect love casts out fear.

If you're a Christian, I want to invite you to commit yourself to truly living in love — for God, for one another, for your neighbours, and let's not forget that Jesus mentioned loving our enemies as well. That's how we bear witness to the change God makes in our life, and that what makes the difference to how we see the world — we see it through a lens of faith and not a lens of fear.

Shipwrecks — Taifun



PHOTO CREDIT: TOM MANSE PHOTO, COURTESY ROGER LELJEWE

SKIP GILLHAM
For QMI Agency Niagara

The German registered cargo carrier *Taifun* came through the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1970.

It had been built at Lubeck earlier that year and was the 116.72-metre-long freighter was soon bound for the freshwater lakes.

In subsequent years, *Taifun* was sold and renamed a number of times but never returned to the Great Lakes under any of those names.

By the time it was sailing under the tenth name of *Lan He*, the ship was registered in Cambodia after having seen previous service under the flags of Singapore, China, Panama and St. Vincent.

Lan He was last reported sailing off Kochi, in western Japan, on Jan. 28, 2011. The vessel had 6,300 tonnes of sand on board and was on a voyage from Weihai, Shandong Province, China, to Kashima, Japan. The former Great Lakes visitor disappeared at sea and all 19 sailors on board perished without a trace.

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Museum wins award for exhibit series

The St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre staff received recent kudos for a pop-up exhibit series.

For that work with the aMUSE exhibit series, they were handed an Ontario Museum Association's Excellence in Community Engagement Award.

The series involved bringing items out from the museum's archives into the community. It was given out Oct. 16 as part of the OMA's annual conference.

That series combines history with

music, food and culture as part of a one-night pop-up display. It started in 2013 with displays on bicycles, music and fashion, while the 2014 series has focused on unique items from different decades.

It takes place at Mahtay Cafe and Lounge on St. Paul St. Unlike traditional museum exhibits, interaction with the collection is encouraged.

The next aMUSE event is set for Saturday, Nov. 1, at Mahtay Cafe.

Information is available at www.stcatharines.ca/aMUSE or by calling 905-384-8880.

FALL CONVOCATION

1,800+ graduate from Niagara College

QMI Agency/Niagara

More than 1,800 Niagara College graduates received their diplomas and certificates at last Friday's fall convocation.

Two ceremonies took place at the Welland campus athletic centre. A 10 a.m. ceremony included graduates from the schools of business and management studies, hospitality and tourism, environmental and horticultural studies, academic and liberal studies, English, trades, justice and fitness studies and the Canadian Food and Wine Institute.

A ceremony for graduates from the schools of allied health studies, community services, and nursing and personal support worker studies was at 3 p.m.

Two special honours were presented. Adin Bradley, chief operating officer of Carefirst Animal Hospital Group, is recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award and Fonthill perdonist Dr. Peter Fritz is recipient of the Niagara Award.

Bradley is a 1996 graduate of

the college's general arts program and 1998 graduate of its business administration—human resources management program, who started his career as a licensed trainer and owner of thoroughbred horses at Fort Erie and Woodbine race tracks. He worked as a human resources manager for Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled in western New York, then as HR director for Community Health Center of Buffalo, before joining Rural Metro Corp. in 2006.

In 2013, Bradley became the director of operations for American Dental Partners, Western New York Region, before taking on his current role as COO for Carefirst in Raleigh, N.C., this year. Carefirst Animal Hospital Group comprises six animal hospitals and an emergency centre.

Fritz is a certified specialist in peridontics and runs a full-time private practice in Fonthill, that focuses on dental implant therapy, bone and soft tissue reconstruction, and oral medicine.

He completed his BSc degree

at McMaster University and his dentistry degree at University of Toronto. Fritz practised general dentistry for five years before obtaining a fellowship in periodontics from the Royal College of Dentists of Canada.

He has lectured extensively across North America and Europe and has published several implant- and bone-related articles, and three book chapters. He has developed continuing education programs for all dental and medical professionals. He founded the Niagara Peninsula Dental Hygienist Study Club, the Perio in the Peninsula Study Club and the ITI Niagara Study Club, all international continuing education programs for health professionals. He is staff periodontist for Niagara Health System, president of the Welland District Dental Society and past-president of the Ontario Society of Periodontists. He was appointed adjunct professor in the faculty of applied health sciences at Brock University where he is engaged in periodontology research and teaching.

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LOCAL NEWS

Ideal conditions for Saturday surfing



DAVID FURMAN/STAFF PHOTO

A kite surfer sails across Lake Erie in Port Colborne Saturday. Strong winds, mild temperatures and partly sunny skies brought dozens of traditional surfers, kite surfers, windsurfers and stand up paddle boarders to the Pleasant Beach area. Many of the surfers were participating in the first Ladies of the Lake event.



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CALNEWS

■ **CATHOLIC EDUCATION:** Pilgrimage raises money for projects in developing world

Students put their best feet forward

GREG FURMINGER
QMI Agency Niagara

On a mild, fall morning walk among the golden leaves in rural Port Colborne, Allie Reddon knew she wasn't just enjoying the scenery. She was helping people more than 3,000 kilometres away whom she'll never meet but who rely on her to don a pair of running shoes each October.

The Grade 11 student was one of hundreds of Lakeshore Catholic High School students who took part in the Niagara Catholic District School Board's 39th annual pilgrimages for the developing world Sunday morning.

"It's cool that in Canada we can help other countries in need," Reddon said as she stopped on Lakeshore Rd., well into her five-kilometre trek.

"It's for a good cause," said walking mate Katie Ruzicky, of why she stepped forward Sunday.

Each year, Niagara Catholic high school students are joined by staff, trustees, alumni, family members and senior students from Catholic elementary schools to raise money and awareness for various social justice initiatives around the world.

All eight Catholic high schools across Niagara took part in walks Sunday.

Lakeshore students and those from St. John's Catholic Elementary School were

walking to raise money for Grange Seniors' Home in Portsmouth, Dominica.

Notre Dame College School students — the Welland high school staged the board's first pilgrimage in 1975 — walked along the Welland Recreational Canal to Dain City and back and raised several thousand dollars for Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, Yancana Husay in Lima, Peru and the Dominican Canadian Community Development Group.

To date, Catholic students participating in pilgrimages across Niagara have raised about \$6.2 million for social justice programs in developing nations around the world.

Schools also support various initiatives through the donation of clothing, equipment and supplies. Over the years, students and staff have travelled, in some cases annually, to their project location to work and participate with youth and religious communities.

About 4,000 participants representing all Niagara's Catholic secondary schools took part in Sunday's pilgrimage, which has its foundations in Jesus's words in the Gospel of Matthew: "Whatever you do for the least of these brothers, do it for me."

Said principal Ralph DeFazio at the school's religion services that followed the walk: "This experience really defines Notre Dame as a Catholic high school."

By the time all pledges come in, Notre Dame expects to have raised about \$35,000, said religion teacher Carol Berkhout. This year's pilgrimage theme at the school illustrated that a raindrop might seem insignificant,

but when many raindrops come together they can make a powerful rainfall.

At a time when so many negative images are emerging from places such as Syria and Iraq, Berkhout said, "I think it's continuing."

usually important to give (students) some reassurance of hope that as a collective, you can make a difference."

greg.furminger@qmi-media.ca
Twitter: @GregAtTheFib



GREG FURMINGER/STAFF PHOTO

Lakeshore Catholic High School students walk along Lakeshore Rd. in Port Colborne during Niagara Catholic District School Board's annual pilgrimage Sunday morning.

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■ **TELEVISION:** Port Colborne woman drives with feet up; St. Catharines man watches TV behind the wheel

Two of Canada's worst drivers live in Niagara

QMI Agency Niagara

Canada's worst drivers include a Port Colborne woman who puts her feet up behind the wheel and a St. Catharines man who watches TV while driving.

The two are among the new hazard roads on *Canada's Worst Driver*, which aired its Season 10 debut Monday night on Discovery Channel.

Any of these people could kill someone.

The Port Colborne woman, identified as Mariah, is described as an "unrepentant drunk driver" who drives with her feet up, phone in hand.

QMI Agency entertainment writer Jim Slotek reported she giggles when she talks about her drunk driving, which

infuriates the TV show's judges and host Andrew Younghusband.

Of her drinking-and-driving she reportedly says, "I don't want to do it; it's just something I do."

The St. Catharines man, identified as George, is a hyper-aggressive driver who speeds and

watches TV on his smartphone while in motion.

People nominated for *Canada's Worst Driver* are put through a number of driving challenges using an assortment of vehicles, and usually including at least one high-end new sports car that ends

up crumpled within minutes of being put into action.

The goal of the popular show is to not only improve drivers' abilities behind the wheel, but to drill into their heads how their bad and unforgiving bad habits could kill them or someone else.

IN BRIEF

Women to gather for girls

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara is hosting its fourth annual Sisterhood of Style fundraising event on Sunday, Nov. 2. To be held noon to 4 p.m. at Lookout Point Country Club, the women's luncheon and

fashion show supports the organization's Go Girls! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds group mentoring program.

The afternoon will include a sparkling wine reception, three-course lunch paired with local wine and a fashion show featuring designers from Abasi-Fashion-Luxury, Bulli, Fashion U Turn, Le Village and Monica's at 270 Degrees West.

In keeping with the Go Girls! mandate to promote positive body image and self-esteem to young females, women of all ages, shapes and sizes were chosen to model in the show.

Tickets are \$75 each or \$560 for a table of eight.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.bbbisniagara.ca or call 905-735-0570 ext. 221.

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Many commercials for food products such as cereals and margarines are advertising that they can help lower cholesterol. The goal of this article is to examine the evidence of the effectiveness of various natural health and food products on the market that claim to lower cholesterol.

Products that contain soluble fibres such as psyllium (ie. Metamucil) or oat bran are known as bile acid binders. These products increase the excretion of cholesterol from the body as well as increase the breakdown of cholesterol in the body to less harmful products. Between 10 and 30 grams of psyllium fibre daily mixed with others foods has been shown to have a significant cholesterol lowering effect.

Between 1.5 and 3 grams per day of Niacin (Vitamin B3) has been shown to lower bad cholesterol while increasing good cholesterol. In some patients, Niacin can cause skin flushing (redness of the skin) as well as itching. There are "flush-free" or "no flush" Niacin products available; however, their effectiveness has not been established.

Plant sterols and stanols often found in margarines labeled heart healthy (such as Becel Pro-Active) have been shown to prevent some of the absorption of cholesterol from the diet and can be included as part of a healthy diet high in fruits and vegetables to lower cholesterol.

Finally, some studies have shown that between 600 and 1200mg of garlic in three divided doses can lower the levels of cholesterol and triglycerides (fat) in the body.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **INDUSTRY:** City-owned land sells for \$650,000; company's Tennessee plans derailed

Welland food plant serving up 75 jobs to start

GREG FURNINGER
QMI Agency Niagara

Details are starting to emerge about a multimillion-dollar food processing plant being built on Welland's rural east side — the largest industrial development in the Rose

City in years, and one that was poised to rise far south of the border.

Welland economic development officer Dan Degazio said a "very progressive company" purchased a fully-serviced 6.4-hectare site in the

city-owned Enterprise Industrial Park for \$650,000.

Citing commercial confidentiality clause, he said the company will remain unnamed for now, but confirmed it will employ 75 people to start. He said the plant off Hwy. 140 could possibly open in early May, and that the hiring process will commence soon after Christmas in order to put workers through a six-week training program.

Timbro Design Build Contractors, which has a history in building food-processing plants, has been contracted to build the new facility next door to its Enterprise Dr. offices.

Company owner Roy Timms said an application was submitted to the city Wednesday morning for a foundation permit.

The building, which he valued at about \$7 million not including processing equipment, will directly employ up to 30 Timbro workers, plus another 30 to 40 at the peak of construction.

"There hasn't been an industrial building of this size built in Welland over the past 15 years or so," Timms said last Wednesday.

Degazio said initial plans are for construction of an 8,100-square-metre (90,000-square-foot) building that in two years could be doubled in size.

"This company was actually going to go to Tennessee — we intercepted the process," Degazio said last Tuesday



The groundwork has started for the development of a multimillion-dollar food processing plant along Hwy. 140 in Welland. The 6.4-hectare site was bought from the city for \$650,000. The unnamed food company has plans to initially hire 75 people, the city's economic development officer says.

from Fort Worth, Texas, where he was attending a conference of the Economic Development Association of Canada and its U.S. counterpart.

"This is how we usually end up getting leads," he said.

Timms, president of the Niagara Industrial Association, said besides the site's access to major transportation routes and proximity to the border, Welland was seen as an attractive place to set up shop also because of improvements to the recreational canal lands, enhanced sport facilities and Niagara College's new research centre for manufacturing.

Through a Niagara Gateway Economic Zone partnership

with Niagara Region, there are no development charges for the project and there are property tax incentives on the land.

But the big selling point was that the land was already fully serviced — and that was crucial in keeping the company's interest in Welland, when it started looking elsewhere in Niagara after the region landed on its radar.

"We beat out another local community because we were already shovel-ready," said Degazio, who would not identify that municipality.

But, he added, "at the end of the day, it's going to help everybody in Niagara."

Timms said the new devel-

opment is the result of city policies and plans that were initiated back in the days of then-mayor Dick Reuter. Welland is just now catching up to Hamilton and the Kitchener-Waterloo area, which for years has had land prepped for industry.

"The process of attracting a manufacturing plant is a slow process, and the key is having a plan of attack," Timms said.

To that end, he said, the city needs to start looking at servicing its other lands along Hwy. 140, at East Main — those that had been pitched for a south Niagara hospital.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ ZOMBIE WALK: 'I like to eat brains'

Welland's night of the living dead

GREG FURMINER
QM Agency Niagara

If someone told Nick Truskoeki he looked like death warmed over Sunday night, he would have taken it as the ultimate compliment.

It was the Grimsby man's first time out to the Welland Zombie Walk, motivated by his mom to rise from the dead.

For Truskoeki, it was a fun escape from the routine of life. An opportunity to take on a different persona.

"I like eating brains — with a little salt and pepper," he said from a face missing half its flesh.

While close to 200 people who dressed in dirty clothes and dripping with blood did indeed hunger for brains, on this creepy night of the living dead in Welland they would have preferred canned tuna or Puppy Chow.

These creatures wanted donations for the Hope Centre, or pet supplies for Welland and District Humane Society.

Prior to the walk, which got underway at about 7 p.m., zombies young and old formed a mob at the Welland

transit terminal — yes, terminal.

It was there that *Monster Attack*, Michael Jackson's *Thriller* and anything by Rob Zombie blared from a sound system.

It's where 10-year-old Austin Bradley played movies, I like with his friends.

"I like zombie movies, I like zombie video games, I like dressing up as a zombie for Halloween," the Welland boy said.

Most who took part in the deathly walk said they have no plans for a repeat performance this Friday, Halloween. Kayla Slow, joined by Antony Cirello, said she plans on being Batman for Halloween. She had so much fun at last year's zombie walk, she had to do it again.

"I like scary people," she said.

For Vivian Ward and Joseph Morris, it was their first time participating.

"I've always loved the classic horror movies, the black and white movies," said Ward, who added a dig to today's teenagers fare: "when vampires aren't sparkly."

The couple, who were married on Halloween night under Pelham's Comfort Maple tree in 2006, will retire their zombie wear until next year and go with different costumes Friday.

New life has been given to zombies in recent years, with zombie-themed walks rising up across North America.

The St. Catharines Zombie Walk had its eighth edition Saturday afternoon, but

drew a significantly smaller group than Welland's night-time event. Last month, more than 400 people turned out to the first 5K Zombie Mud Run at Campark Resorts campground in Niagara Falls.

There were many kids who teamed their way through Welland Sunday, including

seven-year-old Ava Lagesten, who said it was "fun" to dress up as a zombie.

"It is fun," said dad Chris Lagesten, who like many who took part in the walk spent hours getting ready.

His time: five hours. Add to that a couple hours' time spent milling around

the bus depot prior to the walk, plus the trek down East Main St., across the recreational canal and back via Division St., he was sure to be dead tired by the end of the night.

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Intercede INTERNATIONAL

IN BRIEF

Fonthill man arrested for housing build thefts

Video surveillance has helped Niagara Regional Police nab a suspect in a number of thefts from residential construction sites in Fonthill.

Police began their investigation in September. In the early hours of Oct. 17, police responded to a theft in progress on Marlene

Stewart Dr., where a man was caught stealing items from a construction site. As a result of this arrest and assistance from a video surveillance system, the suspect was linked to a number of thefts that took place in September.

On Wednesday 25-year-old Michael Roman of Fonthill was charged with two counts of theft under \$5,000. He was released on a promise to appear in court

at a later date. Police said their investigation was assisted by "vigilant" members of the public.

\$1M winner in St. Catharines

Sandra Kurtziel of St. Catharines won the Guaranteed \$1 Million Prize in a recent Lotto 6/49 draw.

Her winning ticket was purchased at the Avondale Food

Store on MacTavish Dr. in St. Catharines Oct. 11. A million-dollar ticket was sold in Welland for the Oct. 18 draw.

St. Catharines resident Brian Farthing won a \$1-million prize in the June 21 Lotto 6/49 draw. Welland's Vitalis Gornes won the guaranteed \$1-million prize from the Aug. 16 Lotto 6/49 draw.

Chefs showcase dinner nearing

Niagara Parks Commission will host its ninth annual Apprentice Cooks and Chefs Showcase Dinner next month. The event will be held Nov. 6 at Queenston Heights Restaurant, with proceeds benefiting the Niagara Parks Apprentice Cooks Scholarship Fund.

Continued on next page

SPOTLIGHT on service

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From previous page
Apprentice cooks will demonstrate their cooking skills alongside Niagara Parks culinary experts to prepare a six-course dinner featuring local produce and Niagara wines. Niagara Parks hosts of one of the largest culinary apprentice programs in Ontario.

Tickets are \$100 each, which includes reception, dinner and

wine. To view the menu and to purchase tickets visit www.niagaraparks.com/dinner or call 905-262-4274.

Bank investigator scam returns

Niagara Regional Police are warning the public and financial institutions that a common fraud known as the bank examiner or bank investigator scam is again

targeting area residents, in many cases seniors.

In this scam, unsolicited callers identify themselves as bank employees, such as manager or an investigator, and convince the victim to assist in the apprehension of a dishonest employee. The suspect convinces the victim that an employee at their branch is under investigation for some impropriety and a

number of accounts have been compromised. The suspect then enlists the assistance of the victim by having them remove a sum of cash from their personal account and either turn it over to the suspect at an off-site location, or deposit the funds to a 'dummy account' that would be used to catch the dishonest employee.

The victim is told this

action would directly assist in apprehending the crooked employee. Once the cash is turned over, the suspect disappears and the victim suffers a significant financial loss.

Police have received one complaint in Niagara so far.

Police say at no time will a financial institution or police enlist the services of a member of the public in any sting.

SPOTLIGHT on service

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MARIANNE FIRTH/STAFF PHOTO

Carol Madden, poppy chairman at Royal Canadian Legion's Port Colborne branch, expects to see close to 10,000 poppies circulated in the community after the annual campaign launches Oct. 31.

OBITUARY: Alex Kapellas, 42

Port Colborne man dies weeks after dream realized

MARIANNE FIRTH
QMI Agency Niagara

Through times hard enough to break even the strongest man, Alex Kapellas never lost hope.

When his life was dramatically changed by a 2010 accident, one that left him a quadriplegic, the Port Colborne man pressed on, determined to continue making a difference in the world.

That determination prevailed and on Sept. 22, after two years of hard work, Alex was able to see his dream come to fruition when the PoCo Youth Centre was officially launched.

It's a legacy the husband

and father-of-three leaves behind after dying suddenly Oct. 22 at the age of 42.

"He was very proud to be able to get that started, to have kids come out and to touch a few lives," wife Michelle said from the family's Port Colborne home last Friday.

"It was a long time coming," she said of the not-for-profit program held at The Hub that provides youths ages 12 to 16 a safe place to hang out and talk.

"He was working hard on it. He believed God called on him to do it."

The centre's board of directors and volunteers will be meeting in the near future to discuss how to keep the pro-

gram going. Michelle said, while adding that she's exactly what her husband of nearly 20 years would have wanted.

She described Alex as not only hard working, but also as a dedicated father and husband who went out of his way to ensure his family's happiness.

"Alex was always larger than life," Michelle said, as she recalled how their romance began.

"Everyone was drawn to him. I was, too. And he picked me."

The father of Amber, Meghan and Stephen was also determined to ensure his children "followed a good path" in life, Michelle said.

The pin with the symbolic flower will be available in businesses, schools and public spaces across the communities in exchange for a donation to support local veterans. They will also be offered by Port Colborne's cadet corps.

Port Colborne poppy chair Carol Madden has ordered 10,000 pins and she suspects most, if not all will be gone before the campaign comes to an end on Remembrance Day Nov. 11.

"We still have veterans out there who are in need of our help," she said, adding the campaign does much to

assist them in the lakeside city and surrounding communities.

Welland poppy chair Victor Wilcox has close to 50,000 pins waiting to be placed on the coats of Niagarans before Nov. 11.

Canvassers are still needed for the campaign's three main days, Nov. 6 to 8. To volunteer, phone 905-734-3611. Madden said poppies should be worn with pride, knowing they represent the many men and women who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of Canadians.

She believes the tragedy that unfolded in Ottawa last

Wednesday, when a gunman shot and killed Cpl. Nathan Cirillo at the National War Memorial near Parliament Hill, will bring the importance of supporting veterans to the forefront.

Cirillo, a Hamilton native, was standing guard over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier when he was shot.

Wilcox asked that in wake of the tragedy, Canadians think about the sacrifices soldiers have made in the past and continue to make for their country.

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CHERYL CLOCK/ST. CATHARINES STANDARD

Alex Kapellas, 42, died suddenly Wednesday, only weeks after seeing his dream come true of opening the PoCo Youth Centre at The Hub in Port Colborne.

the pastor at Christian Life Assembly said.

A trust fund has been set up at Port Colborne's Meridian Credit Union to help assist the Kapellas family. Donations

will also be accepted through the church.

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Swiss franc: Quadrilingual notes, with information in the four national languages: German, French, Italian and Romanish.

Russian ruble: Earlier this year, a politician claimed the nude god on the 100 ruble note was pornographic and called for its replacement.

Brazilian real: Different sizes according to value to help the vision-impaired.

South African rand: New set of notes released in 2012 feature Nelson Mandela on front.

U.S. dollar: One-dollar bills account for 48% of the paper bills printed in the U.S.

Australian dollar: First polymer note in 1988; became first to have complete series of polymer notes in 1996.

Indian rupee: Each note has amount written in 17 languages (two on front and 15 on reverse).

Norwegian kroner: New 100 kroner note design.

Danish krone: Depicts bridges, seen as links between various parts of Denmark and between past and present.

Hungarian forint: Each note depicts a famous leader or politician on the front and a place or event related to him on the reverse.

Turkish lira: Produced in different sizes to help prevent forgery.

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1.02	Australian dollar
2.15	Brazilian real
5.24	Danish krone
215.07	Hungarian forint
54.51	Indian rupee
5.80	Norwegian kroner
36.09	Russian ruble
9.87	South African rand
0.85	Swiss franc
2.03	Turkish lira
0.89	U.S. dollar

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It's all about the MONEY

Norway has unveiled new, visually-striking designs for its banknotes that are earning high praise. The notes, which some are calling the best-looking cash in the world, will debut in 2017. Here's a look at some other currencies from around the world.

Sources: xanda.com; wtr.stories; Wikipedia • Images: Fotolia; Norges Bank

MUSAN BATESFORD, GRAPHICS EDITOR, TWITTER @BATESF; INFOGRAPHIC BY MEGAN GUNNER/CMR AGENCY